

Freely adapted from Lord Byron's Fragment of a Novel, J.R. Planché's The Vampire; or, the Bride of the Isles predates Dracula in its depiction of the vampire as a seductive, sophisticated, and noble figure. It also helped popularize the character of Lord Ruthven, a nefarious "creature of the night" who would later be immortalized in numerous films, operas, roleplaying games, novels and comic books. Set in the Scottish Isles, Planché's play begins with our heroine having a prophetic vision of her own demise. Lady Margaret is besieged with a nightmarish visitation from a vampiric fiend who threatens to feast upon her blood. These premonitions are quickly borne out when she meets her betrothed, the villainous Lord Ruthven, an otherworldly creature alluded to in local gossip and rumor. He seeks to marry Margaret in order to drain her of her blood. Will her prophetic dreams come true? Or will she be saved from Ruthven's villainous schemes? - Summary by Chuckw

Read by ToddHW; Chuck Williamson; Leanne Yau; TJ Burns; alanmapstone; Sonia; Tomas Peter; Devorah Allen; Foon; Jim Gallagher; Josh Kibbey. Total running time: 1:13:28

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The Vampire or the Bride of the Isles James Planché